NGC
Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

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From the NGC Archives: 1911 Indian Head Quarter Eagle

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By the time the new Indian Head Quarter Eagle was introduced in 1908, this denomination was not commonly seen in general circulation.
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NGC-graded World coins nearly swept the top spots in Heritage's Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) auction, held April 14-18 in Rosemont, IL.
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Numismatists from NGC and PMG will present classes at the ANA Summer Seminar
The ANA Summer Seminar is called "the best education in numismatics." Take a look at the courses being taught by our experts.
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NGC Grading US Coins On-site at Whitman Baltimore

Posted on 5/10/2011

NGC will offer the new Silver Dollar on-site grading tier for Morgan and Peace Dollars. All coins submitted for on-site grading will be evaluated for Plus Designation at time of grading and will be encapsulated in NGC's state-of-the-art holder.

The recently introduced **Silver Dollar** on-site grading tier will be available at the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Expo, Thursday, June 16 and Friday, June 17, 2011. Please check with NGC Customer Service for daily submission cut-off times.

Silver Dollar Tier	**$30 per coin**
Morgan and Peace Dollars valued at $500 and under (5-coin minimum). *Coins must be in flips.*	

In addition, to the new **Silver Dollar** tier, NGC will offer on-site grading and encapsulation of US coins*. Please read below for complete details on the services offered during the show. Check with NGC Customer Service for daily submission cut-off times.

NGC will be offering NGC Details Grading for coins that exhibit detrimental surface conditions. This service is provided automatically and at no additional charge for all on-site grading submissions. Submitters can request to opt out of this service if they prefer to have such coins returned ungraded.

All coins certified or reholdered by NGC at shows receive the Scratch-Resistant EdgeView® Holder.

Additional On-Site Services include :

Gold Special	**$50 per coin**

Gold coins valued at $3,000 and under (5-coin minimum).	

Value WalkThrough	**$65 per coin**
Coins valued at $1,500 and under.	

WalkThrough	**$100 per coin**
Coins valued from $1,501 to $100,000.	

Expedite WalkThrough	**$150 per coin**
Guaranteed four-hour turnaround, coins valued at $100,000 and under. *Coins are returned within four hours or regular show pricing applies.*	

High-Value WalkThrough	**$200 per coin**
Four-hour turnaround, coins valued from $100,001 to $500,000.	

Unlimited Value WalkThrough	**$500 per coin**
Four-hour turnaround, coins valued above $500,000.	

Show ReHolder	**$10 per coin**
A coin in a scratched, chipped or older-generation NGC holder is placed in a new Scratch-Resistant EdgeView Holder.	

NCS CrossOver	**$10 per coin**
A coin in an NCS holder is NGC Details Graded.	

Questions should be directed to NGC customer service at service@NGCcoin.com or 1-800-NGC-COIN (642-2646).

Most coins submitted for on-site grading are returned within 24 to 48 hours, except for expedited services, which are completed within four hours.

NGC Show Representatives will also be accepting submissions for all service levels to be sent to our office in Sarasota, Fla. These include World services, Ancient Coin Services, Early Bird, Economy, Bulk, Special Designations, PHOTO PROOF® and more!

Special Note: Due to the special handling required, NGC does not accept submissions of the following coins at this show for on-site grading or regular service submissions to be returned to the NGC offices: Coins over 3.5" (90 mm)in diameter and .39" (10 mm) in depth, 20th Anniversary Eagles, Early Releases, American Liberty Series, 10th Anniversary Platinum Sets. These submissions must be sent directly to Sarasota, Fla., by the submitter.

Visit our table for answers to any questions about the services offered by NGC. Please remember that NGC does not provide opinions or free evaluations of coins at trade shows.

*Does not include 5-ounce coins.

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United States

NGC Offers On-site Grading at Long Beach Coin & Collectibles Expo

Posted on 5/5/2011

The new Silver Dollar on-site grading tier for Morgan and Peace Dollars will also be available at the Long Beach show.

The newly introduced **Silver Dollar** on-site grading tier will be available at the Long Beach Coin & Collectibles Expo, Thursday, June 2, and Friday, June 3, 2011.

Silver Dollar Tier	**$30 per coin**
Morgan and Peace Dollars valued at $500 and under (5-coin minimum). *Coins must be in flips.*	

In addition, to the new **Silver Dollar** tier, NGC will offer on-site grading and encapsulation of US coins*. NGC will be at booth #458. Please read below for complete details on the services offered during the show. Check with NGC Customer Service for daily submission cut-off times.

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United States

CSNS Auction Results – Be “In the Know” with the NGC Weekly Market Report

Posted on 5/10/2011

Learn more about and sign up for the NGC Weekly Market Report.

More and more coin collectors and dealers are using this weekly report to monitor today's pricing trends. Subscribe for free and you could be one of them.

Market segments covered by the Weekly Market Report:

- Liberty Gold
- Morgan Dollars
- 20th Century Series
- 20th Century Gold
- Precious Metals
- Modern Base Metals
- Early Gold

Feature articles from a couple of recent Weekly Market Reports:

Rosemont - A Central Meeting Place - Heritage Sale Captures Nearly $24 Million by Jim Bisognani: Read about The Central States Convention and take a look at the auction highlights from this top shelf show.

Where are the Fresh Coins? by Jeff Garrett: Writers have been grumbling about the lack of “fresh coins” for years. Jeff Garrett explores this common complaint.

Don't miss out on the latest coin market information. Sign up today.

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United States

A Case Study in Deception

Posted on 5/10/2011

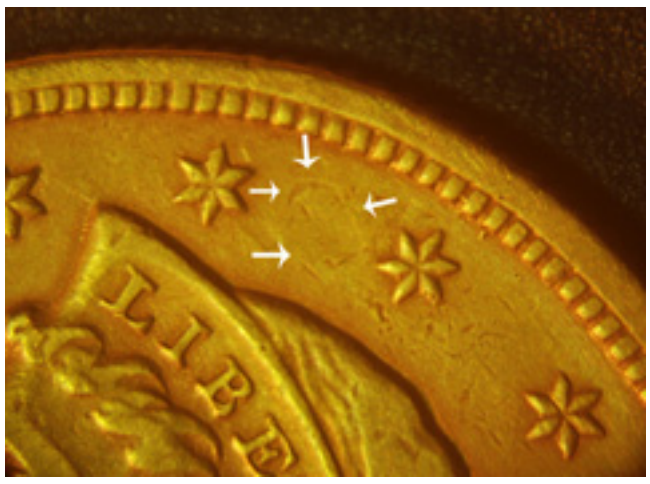
A holed and expertly plugged 1870-CC Half Eagle was recently submitted to NGC for grading. This extremely deceptive coin was of particular interest.

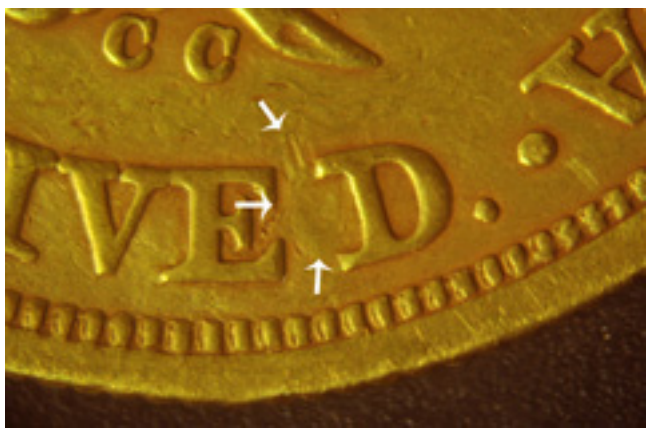
1870-CC Half Eagle Plugged
click image to enlarge

There are a number of ways that people alter a coin to either “improve” its appearance or fool a collector. These practices, such as whizzing or tooling, can be difficult to detect, even to a trained eye. Not long ago NGC received one extremely deceptive coin: a holed and expertly plugged 1870-CC half eagle.

This coin was particularly interesting because we were able to determine that the holed coin, graded XF Details by NGC, was sold at auction in September 2010. After it was sold, someone carefully plugged the hole and re-engraved the missing details. This person, who likely refers to himself as a “coin restorer,” would likely argue that the appearance of the coin has been improved now that the hole is gone. Nonetheless, the originality of the coin has been compromised, and it has the potential to fool a collector into thinking that the coin is better and more valuable.

1870-CC Half Eagle
click image to enlarge





Click images to enlarge.

The submitter to NGC may have had no idea that this coin had been holed and plugged. The plug is quite subtle, and the coin has been cleaned to make it appear more uniform and disguise the handiwork. NGC considers acceptable conservation to be noninvasive: surface contaminants should be removed, but the coin's surfaces should never be irreparably altered.

Before and after pictures show how dramatically this coin was changed. While a few people might argue that restoration enhances the coins appearance, we feel that this is deception and hurts collectors and dealers. A holed coin may not be the most attractive example, but plugging it only does more damage.

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United States

Ancients: Twelve Caesars

Posted on 5/10/2011

We are fortunate that an extraordinary collection of gold aurei portraying all of the "Twelve Caesars" was recently graded by NGC Ancients.

The popularity and value of ancient coins are often derived from a connection to the non-numismatic world. People frequently become involved in the field because they have an interest in another aspect of the ancient world, such as geography, monuments, or famous people.

Novels, cinema productions and academic books have inspired many collections of ancient coins. Travel in Europe, North Africa and the Near East also draws attention to collecting ancient coins, for archaeological sites in these areas preserve many aspects of life in the Greco-Roman world. Any one of these encounters might spark an interest that leads to a lifelong passion for ancient coins.

Productions such as Robert Graves' "I, Claudius" and HBO's "Rome" have generated much interest in Julius Caesar and the Julio-Claudian emperors. Not only did these men engineer Rome's transformation from a Republic to a hereditary monarchy, but the details of their lives are preserved in histories written by the biographers Suetonius and Tacitus not long afterward.

We are fortunate that an extraordinary collection of gold aurei portraying all of the 'Twelve Caesars' was recently graded by NGC Ancients. It is by no means the first set we have graded, but it is by far the finest of those submitted. Beyond its quality, the set is distinguished by an aureus with the portrait of Julius Caesar, which is very rare and is prized by any advanced collector of Roman gold.

It is always a pleasure to see a well-matched collection because it represents an achievement on the part of the collector. In this case it took about a decade of diligent searching to build the set.

We invite you to view the new Twelve Caesars gallery on our website devoted to these coins. When you visit we hope you will enjoy the high resolution images, the historical introduction, and specific commentaries on the coins and the rulers who issued them.

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United States

Counterfeit Detection: 1875-S Trade Dollar

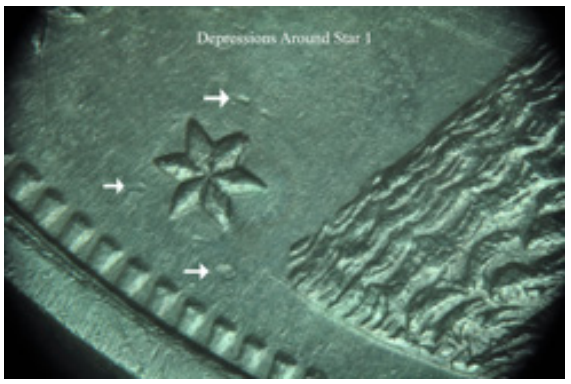
Posted on 5/10/2011

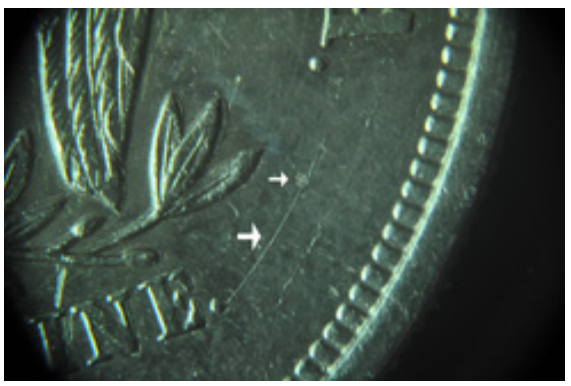
One of the most extensively counterfeited United States issues is the Trade Dollar. Recently, one was submitted to NGC that exhibited a number of the telltale signs of a fake.

Trade Dollars are one of the most extensively counterfeited United States issues, and fakes are received frequently by NGC. Many counterfeit Trade Dollars are well made and can be very difficult to distinguish from their genuine counterparts. Complicating the matter is the fact that many genuine Trade Dollars exhibit unusual characteristics, such as raised lumps on the devices, which typically serve as an indication that the coin is suspect. One counterfeit Trade Dollar recently submitted to NGC exhibits a number of the telltale signs of a fake.

Counterfeit 1875-S Trade Dollar
click image to enlarge

A cursory look at this 1875–S Trade Dollar reveals sharply defined design elements and decent luster–nothing to indicate that it is a counterfeit. However, a closer inspection, particularly under a loupe, reveals several unusual qualities. The digits 7 and 5 in the date have prominent lumps and depressions. A raised





line bisects the top half of the 8. To the left of the date, at star one, are a number of depressions–these are caused by abrasions on a genuine coin being transferred onto dies and struck on the counterfeits.

On the reverse are a number of raised lines; the most noteworthy starts at the period after FINE and ends near the last A in AMERICA. A small, granular depression is seen to the right of the olive branch. An incuse line through the T in UNITED, as well as a large raised lump on the I, also stand out.

This counterfeit was struck from dies made by transferring details from a genuine specimen. By making a copy from a genuine coin, the counterfeiter is assured that the letters and design elements are properly shaped and spaced. Nonetheless, this process leaves depressions, lumps, and raised lines that help to identify the coin as a fake. Collectors should be suspicious of any coins that display these or similar characteristics.

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USA Coin Album: It's an Error to Call a Variety an Error

Posted on 5/10/2011

In this month's column, David addresses confusion about what constitutes an error versus a variety.

One of my roles at Numismatic Guaranty Corporation is to attribute varieties of United States coins. Something I've observed repeatedly is that many submitters don't seem to distinguish between die varieties and mint errors. Since my colleague at NGC, David Camire, attributes the latter, we are frequently swapping boxes of coins that were directed to the wrong party. I can't tell for certain whether the submitters intentionally mix the two categories or simply can't comprehend the difference. Just in case there remains some confusion about what constitutes an error versus a variety, I will address that very subject in this month's column.

The simplest distinction is that a mint error is a random occurrence that is not the result of some irregularity in the dies as created. It may be the result of a damaged or improperly installed die, or it may be caused also by a flawed planchet or mis-feed in the coin press. In other words, the dies used begin their lives as normal in all respects and remain so unless some calamity befalls them. A variety, in contrast, results from some oddity in the dies as made, such as a repunched date or mintmark, a misspelled word, a doubled die, a simple slip of the graver or some other such irregularity that is inherent in the dies as made.

Another way to distinguish between categories is that a variety repeats itself on each and every coin made from the die pair, while a mint error may occur with one coin and then not be seen on subsequent strikes. The exception to this general rule is when the error coin reflects some lasting damage to the die that prevents a

normal striking of the incoming planchets. One extremely popular example of a repeating error is known as a “brockage.” This occurs when a struck coin adheres to one die and then becomes the mate to the other die. Subsequent coins will show two obverses or two reverses, the affected side having a transposed image from the coin stuck in place as acting as a die. This image is rapidly obliterated due to repeated compression of the coin. Since it is much softer than die steel, it will quickly become flattened until it either falls away or is removed by the press operator. If the die is deemed to be still serviceable, subsequent coins struck from it will appear normal.

Most mint errors are not repeating and will look different from one coin to the next. An exception to this rule, however, concerns dies that have had an area of their face broken away. A die crack that extends from one point at the edge of a die to another point may cause the entire portion outboard of this crack to break away. The metal of the incoming planchet fills this void, leaving a raised blob on the face of the resulting coin that is popularly called a “cud.” Though this actually represents a particular die state and is thus technically a variety (as the effect is repeating), such coins typically are sought more by mint error specialists. Exceptions are found among collectors of early USA coins, who are attracted to progressive die states resulting in such complete die failures. By and large, however, cuds are branded as mint errors, and they are attributed as such by NGC.

One interesting crossover coin that attracts both variety and error collectors is found in Volume One of The Cherrypickers’ Guide to Rare Die Varieties, by Bill Fivaz and J. T. Stanton. Their listing FS-01-1983-401 is a 1983 cent that qualifies as both a variety and mint error. Raised letters IBE of LIBERTY appear in the obverse field at an odd angle due to an unknown cause, appealing to variety collectors. Whatever prompted this repeating feature evidently damaged the reverse die of this pair, as well, since a large cud formed partially obliterating the words ONE CENT. Thus, coins from these dies are widely sought by mint error collectors, too.

Until the 1960s, when numismatists first began to specialize in mint errors and truly study minting technology, all error coins and many variety coins were lumped together under the unflattering banner of “freaks.” Many such coins were simply pieces that had been damaged outside of the mint, and both readers and editors of numismatic publications scratched their heads over the attribution of these dubious rarities. Some legitimate errors and varieties attained great notoriety, such as the “BIE” varieties that resulted when the die steel between letters BE of LIBERTY on Lincoln cents chipped away. The filled area on subsequent coins

appeared to be a letter I, and this type of variety was frequently seen on cents of the 1950s and early 1960s. So popular were BIE cents back then that books were dedicated to their cataloging, and a club was established for their collecting. Now considered common and of only minor interest to the better educated collectors of today, BIE cents are still submitted to NGC for attribution. As they add little or no value to the coin, they are not recognized by the company.

David W. Lange's column, "USA Coin Album," appears monthly in the Numismatist, *the official publication of the American Numismatic Association.*

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NumisMedia Market Report: Buyers Charting the Next Big Trend

Posted on 5/10/2011

Just a short month ago, Morgan Dollars had an FMV of $215 in MS 65 and $356 in MS 66. Today they are $263 and $488, respectively.

That is an increase of 23% and 37% in less than a month. Morgan and Peace Dollars are outperforming the rest of the market including US Gold. Not only are these increases phenomenal, most dealers feel this run will continue because there is a shortage of coins in the current market. Granted, we see hundreds of Dollar bags trading every week in circulated condition, however, MS 63 and higher grades are just not available in the quantities needed to fill existing demand. Nearly every time we see miscellaneous Dollar lots offered on the Teletype systems, aggressive dealers jump in even if the asking prices seem a little too high. They know if they don't buy them quickly, someone else will.

Silver Dollars may be charging forward, but US Gold is not far behind. Over the past two years Gold has fueled the coin market and kept it operating and healthy while the rest of the economy has been faltering. With bullion advancing almost on a weekly basis, common US Gold is on every buyer's list. And it is not just the common US Gold that is in demand. Rare dates are also in high demand for the advanced collector. While most of the US Gold series contain various true rarities, the $20 Liberty series has many rarities, and they are attracting a wide variety of buyers at this time. The following chart shows various dates and grades of some very popular rare $20 Gold coins that have shown great progress over the last several years.

Denomination/Grade	FMV April 2003	FMV May 2011
1853 O $20 Gold MS 62	$39,070	$53,330
1854 O $20 Gold AU 58	$119,670	$650,000
1856 O $20 Gold AU 58	N/A	$587,500

1859 O $20 Gold MS 60	$100,750	$136,500
1870 CC $20 Gold AU 55	N/A	$572,000
1871 CC $20 Gold MS 63	$162,500	$303,750
1872 CC $20 Gold MS 61	$43,690	$61,760
1879 O $20 Gold MS 60	$42,320	$102,050
1885 CC $20 Gold MS 62	$22,430	$34,450
1893 CC $20 Gold MS 63	$14,370	$34,430

Most of these $20 Liberties are quite rare; some are the finest known. Most of them have a population of just two or three coins with none grading higher. The only one with any substantial population is the 1893 CC in MS 63 with a combined NGC and PCGS pop of 34 coins. This does not diminish the fact that it is a very popular coin in this grade and will command very aggressive bids when offered in major auctions; as would any of these coins. It may be a stretch to imagine anyone acquiring a few or all of these coins in the last eight years. However, that is exactly what advanced collectors are trying to do today. There is so much interest in numismatics and in this series in particular, that high-end buyers have become obsessed with owning the best of the rarest coins. As you can see, this aggressiveness has spurred the prices to incredible heights and the current demand dictates that they should move even higher in the future.

The likelihood of these coins showing up for sale is somewhat remote, but if they do come on the market, it is almost a certainty that they would command a premium of the FMV currently listed. For example, the 1870 CC in AU 55 has only one NGC coin certified in this grade with none higher. Along with the 1856 O in AU 58 (total of four certified) these coins are the quintessence of any collection. Their scarcity by grade ranks right up with many of the top rarities in United States numismatics.

With US Gold and Silver Dollars captivating the majority of the coin market, it may be time to look at some other areas that could be ready to make significant moves in the near future. Many collectors use charts to follow the coin market and they may have noticed that several series are lagging way behind in advances. Walking Liberty Halves have started to make a strong move in the last few weeks. It began with the MS 64 grade and now MS 65 and 66 coins are beginning to show the same kind of trend that Silver Dollars have registered over the last few months. Not only is the demand robust, the quantities wanted are excessive in this market when you consider that the MS 65 had been selling in most auctions in the $90 - $100 range for the last six months. The current FMV for MS 64 common dates is now $65; the MS 65 is $163 and the MS 66 rose to $225 this month. If the demand continues, we could see increases of the magnitude approaching the current state of Silver Dollars.

Judging by the information we receive from dealers across the country, buyers in this market outnumber sellers about ten to one. As long as the economy remains status quo and gasoline prices remain outrageously high, collectors and investors will continue to purchase coins that they feel will add significant value to their numismatic and investment portfolios.

This article is a guest article written by:

The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

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United States

From the NGC Archives: 1911 Indian Head Quarter Eagle

Posted on 5/10/2011

By the time the new Indian Head Quarter Eagle was introduced in 1908, this denomination was not commonly seen in general circulation.

Most pieces were coined to meet the demand from those wishing to give them as gifts on birthdays and holidays.

In his book on 20th Century U. S. gold coins, David Akers cautioned that the typical 1911 quarter eagle is not found as fully struck as some other dates. He added that its luster is likely to be more granular than on earlier issues. Both statements apply to this specimen, yet it is still a coin of remarkable quality and beauty. The surfaces of this gem are bright, and theyre also free of the heavy contact marks and abrasions so commonly seen on coins of this type.

Are you interested in Indian Head Quarter Eagles? Click here to visit the NGC Coin Encyclopedia and read more.

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United States

World Coins: Mexico 1982 Onza

Posted on 5/10/2011

This counterfeit Mexico 1982 Onza was made to deceive collectors.

With the ever increasing price of silver and gold, coins that were put away years ago are now making their way back into the marketplace – including counterfeits that are once again fooling people. For example, several counterfeit Mexico 1982 Onza coins were received by NGC for grading and authentication.

First reported in *The Numismatist* in the early 1980s, the counterfeit Mexico 1982 Onza was made to deceive collectors. The 1982 Mexico Onza was the first year of issue for this popular bullion coin and supplies at that time were scarce. Collectors eager to buy were paying significant premiums over bullion for the coin. A counterfeiter sought to take advantage of the situation and made counterfeits of the new coin to meet the overwhelming demand. The fakes were quickly discovered and published. However, almost 30 years have elapsed and these coins are reappearing on the market with high silver prices.

The counterfeits are made of a silver content very close in composition to the authentic coins. Additionally, when the counterfeit coins were sold to the public in 1982 the onza design was new and relatively unknown. However, when the counterfeits are compared to an authentic 1982 Onza they are easily distinguishable, as there are significant differences in the design details.

COUNTERFEIT

click to enlarge *click to enlarge*

AUTHENTIC

For example, the counterfeit features a smaller, thinner date, and a larger “Ley 999,” “PLATA PURA,” and

“onza” when compared to an authentic piece. On this counterfeit the dress fades out at the bottom near the foot, the toes are ill-defined, and the face differs significantly from that of the authentic onza coins. The mountain and ground areas have a granular look on the counterfeit pieces when compared to the smooth design of the authentic onza. On the reverse the lettering of the counterfeit is larger and more closely spaced, the head of the eagle is significantly different in feather shape and pattern, and the wreath and cactus are also designed differently - the cactus has un-circled spikes on the counterfeit.

click to enlarge

click to enlarge

While the Mexico 1982 Onza does not possess the same monetary premium over bullion today that it did in 1982, the counterfeits from that time still exist and the savvy collector can avoid them when armed with the right knowledge and a keen eye.

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United States

NGC-Graded World Coins Dominate Heritage CICF Auction

Posted on 5/10/2011

NGC-graded World coins nearly swept the top spots in Heritage's Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) auction, held April 14-18 in Rosemont, IL.

Seven of the top 10 world coins sold (excluding group lots) were certified by NGC. The results were even more notable among the 50 highest grossing individual lots: 39 coins, or 78%, were NGC-graded.

The impressive showing by NGC coins in the CICF auction points both to the high regard for NGC's world coin department as well the strength of the NGC guarantee, which is the most comprehensive of any grading company.

Chinese coins were well represented in the auction; the top dollar NGC coin was a 1914 L&M-828 Y-322 Chinese dollar, graded MS 67, which realized $51,750.

China - Republic Dollar ND (1914)
NGC MS 67
click image to enlarge

Other NGC highlights include:

- China 1922 Hunan L&M-867 Y-404 Dollar MS 65 NGC - $51,750
- Brazil 1749R 3200 Reis MS 65 NGC - $46,000
- South Africa 1874 Fine Beard Pond XF 45 NGC - $40,888
- China 1903 L&M-2 5 Mace MS 63 NGC - $37,375
- China 1898 Shensi L&M-377 Kann-159 5 Cents SP 63 NGC - $37,375
- Spain 1810M RS De Vellon 320 Reales, Millenia Collection AU 55 NGC - $33,350
- Dominican Republic 1855 KM-Pn1var Silvered Copper 10 Reales PF 63 NGC - $29,900
- China (1898) Szechuan KM-Pn15 Brass AU 58 NGC - $29,900
- China 1911 L&M-32 Kann-225 MS 61 NGC - $29,900

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United States

Numismatists from NGC and PMG will present classes at the ANA Summer Seminar

Posted on 5/9/2011

The ANA Summer Seminar is called "the best education in numismatics." Take a look at the courses being taught by our experts.

Summer Seminar features a lineup of classes to suit virtually every collector's hobby needs. Whether your interest is ancients, paper money, Colonial Americana, Lincoln cents, shipwreck coins, commemoratives, or medals and tokens, there's a class or mini-seminar for you. Want to start or grow a business, or learn something about security? There's a class for you. Students can learn to grade coins and detect counterfeits and, most important, hobnob with the hobby's most distinguished scholars and successful business leaders.

Classes are held in small groups so everyone can actively participate. You'll learn not only from instructors who are recognized leaders in their fields, but from the collective experiences of fellow students, who range in age from 13 to 90. And rarely do students or instructors attend just one Summer Seminar. They come back time and time again for the education, friendships and camaraderie.

To learn more about summer seminar, visit the information page on the ANA's Web site, or download the full course catalog [PDF].

The following courses are instructed by professional numismatists from NGC and PMG:

Session 1

Intermediate Grading of United States Coins

This mid-level course is intended to sharpen grading skills through continuous, hands-on group and individual exercises, with instructor feedback on each coin. Students identify their strengths and weaknesses as they apply grading methods used by industry experts. This course enables students to gain a better understanding of current grading-service philosophies and how they evolved in the marketplace.

Course #11. 5-day class: Sunday, June 26, 1-4 PM; Monday-Thursday, June 27-30, 9 AM-4 PM
Instructors include **John Schuch, II,** NGC Grader

Detection of Counterfeit and Altered Coins

Learn the often subtle differences among genuine, counterfeit and altered coins, and then apply your newly acquired skills using the ANA's counterfeit detection set of over 400 coins, ranging from half cents to gold and including world, ancient and colonial coins. Students will handle "raw" genuine and counterfeit coins under direct supervision of instructors. Topics include counterfeit coin production and methodology, types of counterfeit dies and castings, date and mintmark alterations, specific-gravity testing and use of optical microscopes. Funded by a generous gift from Florida United Numismatists.

Course #12. 5-day class: Sunday, June 26, 1-4 PM; Monday-Thursday, June 27-30, 9 AM-4 PM
Instructor **Brian Silliman**, NGC Grader

Collecting United States Type Coins

This interactive overview explains how to collect US coins by regularly issued types, from half cents through double eagles. Explore the rarity of each design and denomination in relation to grade, as well as the technical aspects of strike and planchet quality and the aesthetics of toning. Students are encouraged to bring their own coins for evaluation and study. View PDF

Course #15. 5-day class: Sunday, June 26, 1-4 PM; Monday-Thursday, June 27-30, 9 AM-4 PM
Instructors include **David W. Lange**, NGC Research Director

Session 2

Grading US Paper Money

This hands-on seminar focuses on introductory and intermedate grading skills across a number of popular paper money areas. There will also be an opportunity for group discussion and one-on-one instruction. Students are encouraged to bring up to 10 of their own notes for grading, as well as a magnifying loupe. View PDF

Course #23. 2-day class: Monday-Tuesday, July 4-5, 9 AM-4 PM
Instructor **Bruce Thornton**, PMG Finalizer

Advanced United States Coin Grading and Problem Coins

This course concentrates on the nuances of high-grade, mint-state and proof coins. Students learn how to distinguish original surfaces from mint-state and circulated coins that have been cleaned or altered, and to identify minute imperfections and color variances that can affect a coin’s grade. Students will learn the methods used by experts, as well as their own strengths and weaknesses. Prerequisite: Successful completion of "Intermediate Grading of United States Coins," or permission from the instructor, is required. Prospective students must complete a questionnaire before enrollment is confirmed. Each grading class is limited to 21 students.

Course #35. 5-day class: Sunday, July 3, 1-4 PM; Monday-Thursday, July 4-7, 9 AM-4 PM
Instructors include **Jim Young**, NGC grader

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United States

ANA Seeking Numismatic Theatre Proposals for Chicago World's Fair of Money

Posted on 5/10/2011

The ANA's Numismatic Theatre offers an opportunity for hobbyists to share their knowledge with fellow collectors.

American Numismatic Association members are encouraged to share their creativity and research with fellow hobbyists by delivering a Numismatic Theatre presentation at the 2011 ANA Chicago World's Fair of Money, August 16-20 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Ill.

Numismatic Theatre consists of 30-45 minute presentations on a wide range of topics, and is a chance for collectors to discuss their ideas and collections with the numismatic community. Presentations from previous shows include "Women in Power, on Coins & in Art," "Charles VI of France: The King, His Madness & His Money" and "Massachusetts Copper Mint, 1787-1789." A videographer will be on hand to record the presentations; talks should be accompanied by digital images or slides.

Collectors interested in giving a Numismatic Theatre presentation can download a proposal form at www.worldsfairofmoney.com (select the "Education" tab). Proposals can be sent by fax to 719-634-4085, or by mail to the ANA Education Department, 818 N Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Proposals must be received by June 10.

The World's Fair of Money is the nation's premier money show. The event features hundreds of numismatic dealers; the ANA Museum Showcase, exhibiting some of the world's most valuable and beautiful coins and paper money; a Mint Promenade with mints from around the world; the Collector Exhibits area; a multi-million-dollar auction by Stack's Bowers Galleries; hourly educational

presentations and seminars; and special events including the ANA's annual kickoff celebration, to be held at the Shedd Aquarium.

Show hours are 9:30-5:30 p.m. August 16-20. Admission is $6 for adults, and free for ANA members and children 12 and under. Robert Leonard is the event's general chairman and the Chicago Coin Club is the event's host club. For more information, visit www.worldsfairofmoney.com.

The American Numismatic Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and encouraging people to study and collect money and related items. The ANA helps its members and the public discover and explore the world of money through its vast array of programs including its education and outreach programs, museum, library, publications, conventions and seminars. For more information, call 719-632-2646 or visit www.money.org

The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

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